



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Sacramento Fish & Wildlife Office
Species Account
CLOVER LUPINE
Lupinus tidestromii



CLASSIFICATION: Endangered
Federal Register Notice 57:27848; June 22, 1992
http://ecos.fws.gov/docs/federal_register/fr2073.pdf
(1.9 MB)

STATE LISTING STATUS AND CNPS CODE:
This species was listed as endangered by the California Department of Fish and Game in January 1987 under the name Tidestrom's lupine. The California Native Plant Society has placed it on List 1B (rare or endangered throughout its range), also as Tidestrom's lupine.

CRITICAL HABITAT: None designated

RECOVERY PLAN: Seven Coastal Plants and the Myrtle's Silverspot Butterfly Recovery Plan, final, September 29, 1998. For information contact the Ventura Fish & Wildlife Office,
<http://www.fws.gov/ventura>

5-YEAR REVIEW: Completed November 2009. No change recommended.
http://www.fws.gov/ecos/ajax/docs/five_year_review/doc3210.pdf (182 KB)



Clover Lupine
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Clover Lupine
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DESCRIPTION:

Clover lupine, which is also known as Tidestrom's lupine, is a member of the pea family (Fabaceae). It is a creeping perennial herb, 1 to 3 decimeters (4-12 inches) tall. It grows only on sand dunes of the central California coast.

The narrow leaves have 3 to 5 leaflets, each 5 to 20 millimeter (0.2 to 0.8 inch) long, and arranged in a fan shape. The stems and leaves have short hairs. The inflorescence stems are 4-8 centimeters (1.6 to 3.1 inches) long. Whorls of flowers are blue to lavender.

The fruits are pods containing 5 to 8 seeds with blackish spots. Because the large seeds have a hard seed coat, and because related lupine species are known to have long-lived dormant seed banks (e.g. *L. arboreus*), it is likely that clover lupine also has a persistent seed bank, and may retain viable populations at some sites where it is not recorded. Seeds are probably dispersed by explosive dehiscence (bursting of the seed pods) and rolling, or rarely by tidal erosion and deposition.

The prostrate habit, number of leaflets (mostly 3), and small leaflet size, 1.3 to 2 centimeters (0.5—0.8 inch) long, and dense hairs on the foliage distinguish *L. tidesstronii* from other lupines occurring in the area. See Jepson Manual, below, for a detailed description of this and similar species.

DISTRIBUTION:

This species is found in clustered colonies at 3 sites along the California coastal dunes: the southern most populations are found at various sites from Carmel Beach to Asilomar State Beach on the northern tip of the Monterey Peninsula, the central populations are found in their highest numbers and concentration on Point Reyes National Seashore around Abbott's lagoon, and the northern most populations are found at Goat Rock Beach on the Sonoma Coast State Beach.

U.S. Geological Survey 7.5 Minute Quads: Tomales (485B) 3812228, Drakes Bay (485C) 3812218, Duncans Mills (503A) 3812341, Arched Rock (503B) 3812342, Bodega Head (503D) 3812331

THREATS:

Threats include loss of habitat due to development, trampling by hikers and equestrians and livestock grazing. Many sites are also threatened by invasion of nonnative species, such as iceplant and European beachgrass. Some major populations at Point Reyes National Seashore, Asilomar State Park and Pebble Beach are protected by land use restrictions.

REFERENCES FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

General references about California plants

www.fws.gov/sacramento/es/plant_spp_accts/plant_references.htm

The Jepson Manual: Higher Plants of California. This is the standard reference about California plants. The Manual is available in an [online version](#). See also the [Jepson Online Interchange](#) for updates.

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